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Spring Sports: Special Pre-Tournament Reports



THE BELL RINGER

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New Carter Building to be All Decked Out

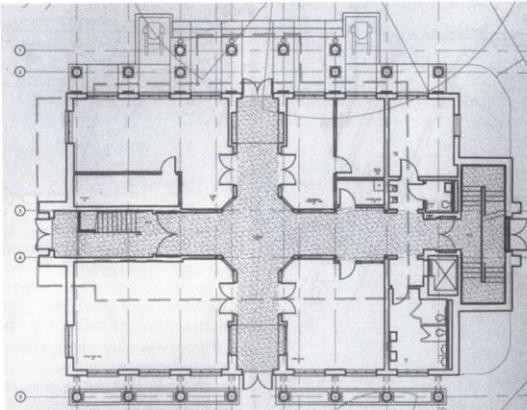
By Gabe Roth

Construction workers have been laying bricks and mixing concrete on the north side of campus as long as the student body can remember.

In a few days, the new Francis Edward Carter Building will be complete, and not too far behind schedule.

The windows have begun to arrive. The finishing touches are being put on the electrical system. The cannons that once faced West End from in front of the Ball Building will be moved from behind the garbage dump near the debate building and placed on the north side of the Carter. Work on the circular courtyard off the east entrance dedicated to past and present MBA teachers will begin.

Though the original completion date of May 15, 2000, is soon to pass, faculty members will be able to move their belongings into the Carter Building on May 22. Their wait—for their own classroom, their own storage space—is over. Teachers who relocated from the Carter Building to Wallace this past year, such as Mrs. O'Connell, and those who have been in Wallace for years but are making the move to Carter with the rest of their department, such as Mrs. Dickerson, began to pack their stuff in boxes long before the move in anticipation of the



Floor Plan for first floor of Carter Building with two bathrooms (far right, upper and lower) and four non-classroom rooms: Big Red Store (upper left corner), Student Commons (lower left), Mr. Jones' office and "Info Room" (upper middle) Publications Room (lower middle)

completion date.

In Mrs. O'Connell's case, unpacking her boxes and settling in to her spacious second-story Wallace classroom, which is shared by Mr. Caudill, was out of the question.

Mrs. Dickerson, meanwhile, has

used the services of one poor student with dozens of demerits to gather up her belongings and put them in boxes ready for shipping (or walking) across campus (or next door).

Unlike the old Carter Building, there will be no department office (re-

member the closet on the second floor at the top of the stairs where Mr. Herring and Dr. Bailey graded their tests?) in the new building. Because more teachers will have classrooms where only they will be teaching--and thus fulfilling an objective laid out by the SACS committee who evaluated the campus during the 1996-1997 school year--they will be able to make their rooms double as their own office, where students can go to ask questions before school and during the day and where their advisory meetings will take place.

The plan for the second and third floors of the new Carter Building is simple (and identical): six classrooms per floor (language on one; history on the other) and men's and women's bathrooms at the end of halls. Their are staircases at either ends of the hall and an elevator by the bathrooms.

The first floor is a little more complex. There are four main rooms with bathrooms at the end of the hall.

One room will be the publications room, housing the Bell Ringer and Bell, which will be on the right when going into the south entrance (from the Sloan Quadrangle). Mr. Gioia and Mr. Jackson have been heading a committee consisting of Mr. Jones, Mr. Kelley, Ms. McGee, Will Corbett, Johnny Sisk, Phillip Cox, Thompson Paine, and myself who have been collaborating ideas of what the publications room should look like next year. A preliminary drawing has been released, but students involved in publications feel it is a "rough sketch" and needs a little work before the ideas are finalized.

On the left, across the hall from

Continued on page 3

MBA, Harpeth Hall Proms Shine in own Right

By Thompson Paine

On April 8, MBA juniors and seniors danced the night away at the annual prom held in Currey Gymnasium. With over 150 students participating and over two hundred in attendance for presentation, it was no small production.

Those in tuxedos and dresses were blessed with a cool night, as temperatures outside stayed in the fifties. This weather allowed for a comfortable climate in the gym and made the atmosphere for presentation all the better.

The theme for MBA's prom this year was an Arabian Nights type motif, with an Alladin-esque palace, palm trees, and a starry sky in the background deco-

rating the stage. The purple, blue, beige, black, red, green, and gold colors of the set all came together to create a magnificent image.

For the first time in over a decade, the senior banquet was held at MBA. This move, actually seen as a let-down at first to many since the usual plans for the Cumberland Club fell through, was a spectacular one. The decorations transformed the theater into an elegant dining hall and the

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The Sons of Soul, the talented and well-picked band at MBA's Prom

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Opinions

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Music Today Just Isn't What it Used to Be

By Patrick Gibbs

We have entered the year 2000; great innovations are being made in every field of science and technology. I only wish I could say the same for the field of music. The second half of the

wages must once again be lowered, causing poverty.

Unfortunately, music follows the same cycle of boom and bust.

In the late 1960's and on into the 70's, music hit a boom with bands such

sic, some bands began to make real music. Metallica, Guns 'N Roses, and others came on to the scene with their guitars and drums, not synthesizers. By 1992, musical talent was prosperous.

The 1990's started out great with the alternative/grunge phase. Bands such as Pearl Jam (left), Nine Inch Nails (right), Stone Temple Pilots (bottom left), Nirvana (bottom right), Red Hot Chili Peppers (see page 14), Weezer, Beck, and Phish, began to appear.

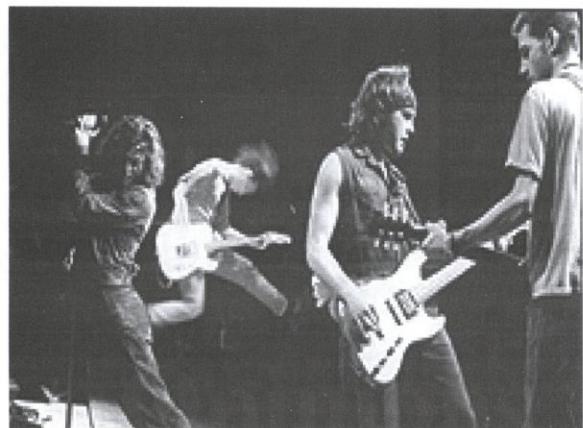
There was no doubt that a great period of prosperity was among us. Nirvana's introduction of grunge took over the radio waves and created a group of rock fans once again. Even Rush was making good music again. These early years were reminiscent of the great period of rock and roll which was eminent in the late sixties and the seventies.

The innovative styles of Pearl Jam, Red Hot Chili Peppers, and Nine Inch Nails inspired other bands to be more creative and interested in talent, but a downward spiral would soon follow. The late 90's gave birth to the "bad rap" (not the early NWA, Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg) and "teeny bopper" music. The new style was one which involved neither talent nor creativity on

to become bad singers. But fear not, for nature will not allow this era to proceed for much longer. I predict that the dawn-



Nine Inch Nails



Pearl Jam

nineteenth century has had its ups and downs in the trends and artists of the music industry, and I am sad to say that we have come to a definite down; however, I am glad to note that this trend is only natural.

Nature has its cycles of boom and

as the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, Steppenwolf, and a young Rush. These bands, with their innovative styles, remain today as some of the greatest bands of all time. By actually writing their own music and using creative talent, these bands helped to form

music as it should be today. After these ten years of prosperity, the output of great bands crashed. Disco was the front-runner for the next eight years.

Sure, many people loved disco, but they were all brainwashed by the belief that it was good music.

The great bands—Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, the Rolling Stones, et al.—remained on the scene, but were over-shadowed by the barons of disco.

Rush, on the other hand, is the epitome of a band affected by the rubbish around it. The bands of the eighties, including Rush, put out a mix of disco and modern pop, which was highly unacceptable. The bust had come and it was there to stay until the late eighties.

After ten years of disastrous mu-

ing of a new era will appear. Below the shadows of this horrible music lie the artists who will train their listeners to defeat the craze. We have seen it before. Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, and the Rolling Stones remained during the disco era and gave their listeners inspiration to pick up a guitar and make some real music.

The 80's even held such bands as the Clash and a young Metallica to give their listeners inspiration. With the dawn of rap, M.C. Hammer, and Vanilla Ice one could have predicted the fall of alternative and grunge, but there is still hope.



Stone Temple Pilots

bust in every field:

When a decade is conservative, the reaction of the politicians and the people is to make the next decade more liberal. When a decade is liberal, the reaction of the politicians and the people is to make the next decade more conservative. Unless Ricardo's Iron Law of Wages is followed, then the economy will follow a boom and bust cycle. The wages are raised, and the people have more children due to the prosperity, but once there are too many people, the



Nirvana

the artists' part. The writers of the music can be given some credit for talent, but they ruined music.

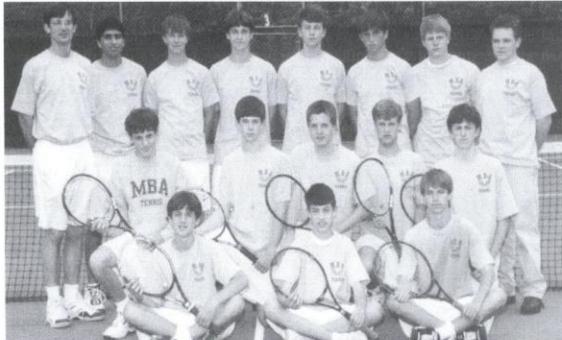
It seems that we have reached a second disco era in which appearance rules all. Dance music has once again risen to the top. Bad actresses are able

Groups and individuals such as Beck, Phish, Red Hot Chili Peppers, and NOFX remain in competition with the "teeny boppers," and one day the talented-ones will rise again to the top. We can only hope that the time is near.

Sports

7

Tennis wins Region Tourney, Looks to State



MBA Tennis Team (Top Row; l-r) Dr. Bailey, Mike Anand, Charles Anderson, Mark Fritz, Thompson Paine, Chad Fernandez, Will Hines, Thomas Blackburn; (2nd row, l-r) Hunter Oldacre, Tipton Horn, Daniel Newen, Patrick Gibbs, Robert Stewart; (3rd row, l-r) Matthew Naftilan, Steven Syverud, Zac Hood

By Steven Syverud

The MBA tennis team is a little on the young side this year. The Big Red's top six is composed of two juniors (Zac Hood and Will Hines), one sophomore (Charles Anderson), one freshman (Chad Fernandez), and two eighth graders, (Teddy Tywang and Mathew Naftilan). Of the team of fifteen players, the Big Red has just one senior, Mike Anand.

As a result, the Big Red have had to turn to their young guns to come up with some big wins. And that's exactly what they've done. After ten matches,

the Big Red have won eight, while tying Baylor and losing to McCallie.

The skill of the young Big Red was especially highlighted in the Baylor match. Baylor, a perennial tennis powerhouse, was leading the Big Red by two matches, before the eighth graders, Tywang and Naftilan came up



Zac Hood serves up a winner

with big wins to knot up the match.

As Dick Vitale might say, these guys are diaper dandies.

The team's youth movement was advanced when Bryan Fisher, who had been slated as the team's number one singles player, declined to play for the Big Red, at the behest of the Louisiana State University, where he will be enrolled in the fall. Fisher left a big void in the lineup that was hard for any one player to fill.

But the team has managed to lessen the severity of his loss, by becoming closer knit. They have developed that team chemistry which is essential to all winning teams.

"This team has more team unity," Anand says. "Everybody is not trying to worry about their own stats. [When their matches are done,] they will go cheer you on in your own match instead of leaving."

Zac Hood, who now occupies the number one singles position, noticed the same thing.

"We're younger but we've had more team unity."

Because of this unity and youthful resurgence, the Big Red is likely to be among the top four finishers in the State Tournament in Chattanooga May 24-26. And don't count these

guys out of contention for the State crown.

"If everybody plays well, we



Chad Fernandez returns the ball

could win it," says Anand. MBA is a legitimate contender along with MUS, Baylor and McCallie.

But mention next year and the eyes of those on the Big Red tennis team light up. With fourteen of fifteen players back, they will be force to be reckoned with. MBA will have four seniors, and its five newcomers to High School tennis, will have a year of experience under their belt. Zac Hood says that the team's youth "can only set us up for good year next year."

And so let youth be served.

Awww, Shoot: Riflery Is At It Again

By Will Stringfellow

Sometimes when I walk through the halls at MBA, people will comment on my letter jacket. It starts off well then someone will burst out with, "Oh, it's just a riflery letter."

Most people do not realize what it takes to be good at shooting is not easy at all. The objective of riflery is to take 60 shots and try to compose the highest score possible. Each shot is worth up to 10 points, with 600 being a perfect score.

A shooter must take 20 shots in each of three positions, prone, standing, and kneeling. Most people say that they think they would be great at this. What they don't realize is that holding an air rifle for 140 minutes is very difficult and demanding.

To score a ten one must hold a 12 to 15 pound gun perfectly still and then be able to hit a spot that is one half the size of a pencil point and some 30 feet away. The first 20 shots in prone are

what is considered the easiest of all the positions because one is lying on the stomach and has the aid of an arm sling.

A shooter moves next to the standing position, this is the hardest position. The reason that this position is so hard is that one must hold the gun steady for the longest period of time without the help of anything except clothing, bone, and muscle. A shooter then moves into the kneeling position, in which one uses clothing, a sling, and a kneeling roll to help support himself.

A good day for a shooter would be to score around 550 out of 600, which is what the MBA rifle team averages.

Many people make fun of shooting and say that it is not a sport. To say this, one must be misinformed. For a shooter to shoot at his or her best he or she must be in good athletic shape. in order to shoot between heartbeats when the body is steadiest.

Every October MBA holds the largest junior rifle tournament in the na-

tion. It is the MBA Fall Classic. This is three days of

three-position air rifle competition with over 200 shooters from different parts of the country showing up to shoot. MBA placed third in the 1999 Fall Classic.

Granted, riflery is not a spectator sport but I believe all MBA students should take pride in the accomplishments of their riflery team.

As for those who think it is easy, I invite you to come out and give it a try. You might change your mind about



The rifle team practicing their art

the level of skill involved in becoming a good shooter.

Lacrosse Tears Up Midstate Competition



Fleming and the Big Red attack splits the defense

By Jesse Bull

To an innocent bystander driving by the plush facilities on West End, lacrosse may seem like a game.

But when we suit up in the red and white, strap on our helmets, and grip our battle-sticks, it's World War III out there and we're fighting to the death.

In 2000, the Ball is All.

Each and every day of the week, the MBA Varsity Lacrosse team steps onto the field with fire in our eyes burning for love of the game. When the clock strikes 3:20, give or take an hour, there's no messing around.

And come game time the intensity only gets higher.

Though trials and tribulations, injuries and heartache have tried to bring us down, we continue our reign

school lacrosse. With a growing fan base, our own mascot (The Beagle), and the prospect of a future Lacrossette Cheering Squad, this year's team is truly reinventing and revitalizing the sport.

Our success can be attributed to our diverse melange of versatile players and their skills on the field.

It all starts with the heart and soul of the team — Steven "Stank" Warren. His youthful appearance, superior athletic talent, and dedication to year-round training earned him recognition as Student/Athlete of the Month along with the respect and reverence of his fellow players. Fearless leadership is provided by the captains, "spark plug"

organization seems to be doing everything correctly and hopefully Nashville will taste the playoffs in the next few years. The challenge for the next couple of seasons will be steadily making progress and keeping the strong fan base. Personally, the whole "Hockey Time in Nashville" wore off at the beginning of the season when they lost their eighth straight game. Unless there are more die-hard hockey fans than ap-

Andrew Ellis and Matthew McIntosh, who provides goals at a whim. Clay Jackson represents with monstrosity faceoffs and intensity, and Jeff Scobey brings moves straight off the black top.

Then, there's Adam "The Wall," a.k.a. Turn the Bubbles Back On" Brooks, the twins with the six foot poles, William and Leighton Liles, and Zach Wall, who contributes a consistent example

of concentration and self-discipline. Three little freshman provide a big at-

— these descriptions just go hand in hand with being a member of Big Red lacrosse. We've got the goods and we deliver day in and day out. That's what life is about, and, with us, lacrosse is life.

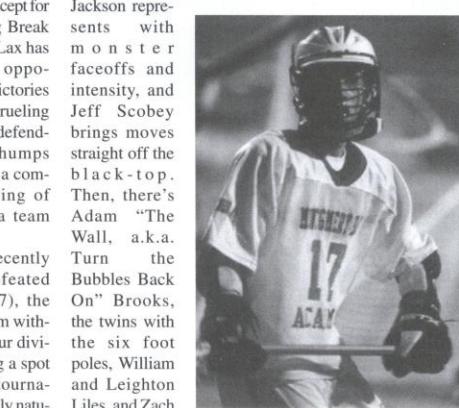
"If you build it, they will come." We've built the dream and the dynasty so come out and watch some lacrosse.

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L a c r o s s e
T e a m
M e m b e r s
S h a r e T h e i r
T h o u g h t s

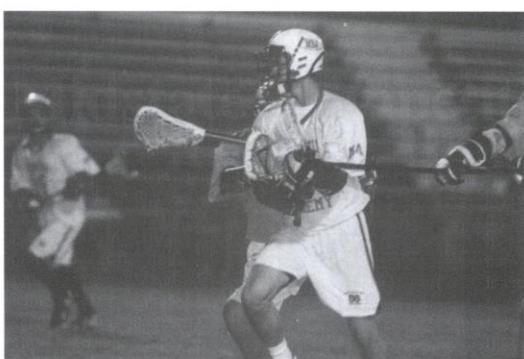
I asked some of

my teammates to share their thoughts on lacrosse with words, phrases, and memories they associate with the game. Here are their responses:

Zach Wall - "No cuts, no butts, no peanut butter haircuts."
Matthew McIntosh - "Intensity."
Adam Brooks - "Ray Stinkypunk."
Russell



Cyrus Adams strikes his intimidating pose for the camera



Senior Clay Jackson charges down the field.

tack. And the list goes on... (sorry guys).

Eye of the tiger, heart of the lion

Continued on page 9

Questions Loom as Predators End Season

By Zac Hood

After finishing the season with a less than stellar performance (5-1 loss to Anaheim), the Nashville Predators say they have learned a plethora of things throughout the year. While their win-loss record is the best in NHL history for a second year expansion team, only time will tell about the future of hockey in Nashville. The front office has saved the big bucks and has opted to go for the fresh young guns. The

pear, people will not be satisfied with a night full of laser shows, prize packs, live bands, and a 5-0 defeat. The last portion of the package will need to be improved. That is where the hockey part comes into play. While it may be entertaining, seeing your little brother getting beaten up by an adult can only be fun to watch so many times. These Predators need to live up to their names and go out and win. Predictions for next

year? A surprisingly strong season culminating in the acquisitions of a few well-known veterans who will guide the Preds in the playoffs and sign long-term contracts after the season, ensuring a hockey dynasty in Nashville for years to come. If not, possibly Eddie George or Lorenzo Neal could suit up and create some entertaining hockey. Good Luck Preds; I hope you know what you're doing.

Sports

9

Soccer Is the “Best It Has Been In Years”



Coach Lanier rallies the troops during a mid-afternoon practice

**By Chris Bateman and
Chris Henson**

As always, the Big Red soccer team has provided fans with great excitement this season.

Boasting an 8-6-2 record, MBA soccer, coached by Messieurs Lanier and Klausner displays an enthusiastic team spirit that leads to tremendous success on the field.

Senior leadership has been provided by team captains Sean Holland (sweeper) and Adam Sinks (center midfielder), whose work ethics and determination have pervaded the entire team. Sophomore Ben Bevans leads the team in point-scoring, with four goals

and three assists for a total of eleven points. Just behind him are three seniors, Ben Davis with seven points, Adam Sinks with six, and Tee Isenhour also with six.

A highlight of the year came in the team's trip to Memphis for a tournament that included some of the state's top teams. There the Big Red tied perennial powerhouse Brentwood High and defeated highly-ranked Ridgeway. Having equaled or bettered such prestigious teams, many players believe the team has potential to rise to great heights this year.

The team has set its expectations pretty high, and if players, both young

and old, keep performing as they have been all year, the team will surely succeed.

Last year's curse on the offense seems to have faded away. The offense so far has been productive, sometimes thrilling with brilliant displays from Bevans and Tee Isenhour. One such display was play in which forward Billy Pritchett saved the ball from going out of bounds by crossing it to the center of the field, where Davis pounded the ball between the posts on a perfectly hit header.

And of course, MBA's stalwart defense, run by Sean Holland, remains a strong point of the team. Goalkeeping

for the Big Red is a tripartite unit of Paul Weissert, Chris Bateman, and Justin Holland. Also notable is Will Greathouse, one-time recipient of the "man of the match" title.

For anyone who does not yet know, MBA soccer is the best it has been in years.

The atmosphere is always rowdy, though the team does not explicitly endorse heckling. The games are always thrill rides in themselves.

Most recently, the Big Red took on arch-rivals Father Ryan on May 5 and lost a squeaker, 1-0. MBA hopes to rebound and beat the Irish in a possible rematch in the region or state tournament.

Lacrosse

Continued from page 9

McWhirter - "Companion-ship."
Zach Parker - "Fill in the hip pocket."
Wesley Williams - "Dedication and perseverance."
Brad Miller - (Picture own bear noise)
Clay Brown - "I know it's cheap, but I like the hard stuff."
Porter Meadors - "Mad cow."
Jonathan Mirian - "If lacrosse was a 3-dimensional object, it would be a paraboloid."
Ben Hickerson - "Viva la resistance."
Steven Warren - "If he wears a Duke helmet, he's good."
Clay Jackson - "The Circle."
Jeff Scobey - "Mr. Pibb."
Jake Nemer - "This article is soooooo stupid."

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Baseball Team Peaking in Time for Tournament



Barbara McDonald, *McDonald's*, who also wrote *How to Write a Book*. www.mcdonaldbooks.com

Baseball Team Peaking in Time for Tournament

Continued from page 10

on the record, making it 10-6.

Finally the last stride of the season was upon the team. A three game series versus Ryan was the next thing on the agenda. The Big Red won this series, 2-1.

The third game was the nail in Ryan's coffin, as the warning track power of MBA was clearly shown by the offensive game. Will Tucker was 2-3 with 3 Runs, 1 RBI, and 2 walks. Justin Elliott launched a 2 run home run that went over the left-center field fence about 400

feet away. Also the superb running ability of Charlie Ezzell was shown as he went 4 for 5 with 4 singles, 1 reach on error, 2 runs, 1 RBI, and a stolen base.

- Senior Clark Lea, a perennial force behind the plate, straps on his mask and prepares for battle

against USN, Harpeth, and Middle Tennessee Christian.

Then the team began a three game series against BGA. Losing the first two games, the Big Red steam rolled Cheatham Co. 12-1 and then whooped up on BGA 8-2 at their place.

Now the team was 7-2, and began a three game series with Brentwood Academy. This three game series posed another obstacle to the team as BA took the 1st and 3rd games of the series, pushing the team's record to 8-4.

The Big Red took a break from league play to attend the by invitation only USA Classic in Memphis. This tournament had its pros and cons. Pro #1 was that the second game of the tournament marked the return of junior Nathan Sensing to the pitching staff, but Con #1 was that Josh Ritter suffered a season ending injury. Pro #2 was that the team went 2-2 at the tournament defeating Green Run and Johnston High out of PA. These wins were strong performances by the Big Red especially on the offensive. Jack Turner was on fire against Johnston, batting 4-5 with 2 singles, 1 double, 2 runs, and 3 RBIs. His only open at bat was given to him by the umpire on a terrible batter's interference call that Coach Woolsey argued until he was blue in the face. Ed Miranda also stepped up against Johnston batting 2 for 2 with 2 singles, 2 runs, 2 walks, and a RBI.

These games, even though out of TSSAA sanctioning were counted

The teams record was now set at 12-7. Monday May 1st marked the last regular season game, an 11-4 victory over Davidson Academy.

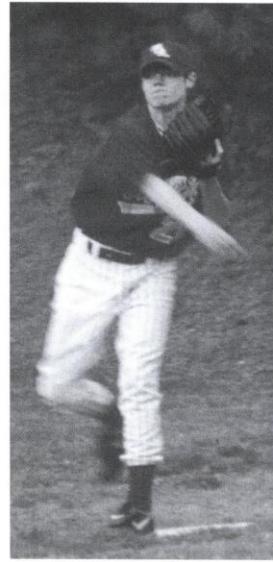
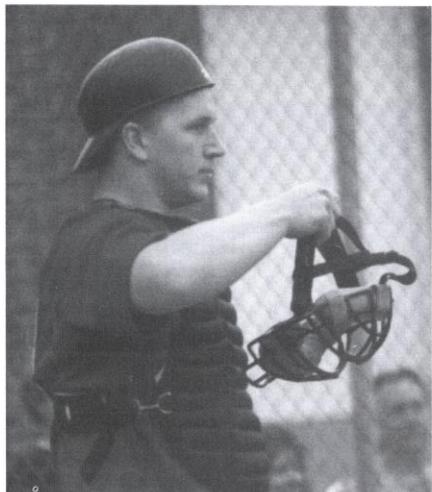
The Big Red is entering the region tournament on a high note after taking care of their arch rivals and other local teams.

Look to see the Big Red in the State Tournament later this month, and be not surprised when the team bring home some nice mantlepieces.

Year-end team leaders

Batting

Highest Batting Average – Will Tucker - .400
 Highest Slugging Percentage – Warner Jones - .662
 Highest On Base Percentage – Bill Alley - .603
 Most Home runs – Warner Jones – 4
 Most Singles – Jack Turner – 22
 Most Doubles – Will Tucker – 6
 Most Triples – Warner Jones – 3
 Most RBIs – Jack Turner – 24
 Most Hits – Warner Jones – 27
 Most Runs – Will Tucker/Clark Lea – 22
 Most Stolen Bases – Jack Turner/Warner Jones – 8
 Most Walks – Bill Alley - 19



Josh Adkins warms up his arm

Most Hit by Pitches – Bill Alley - 8

Pitching

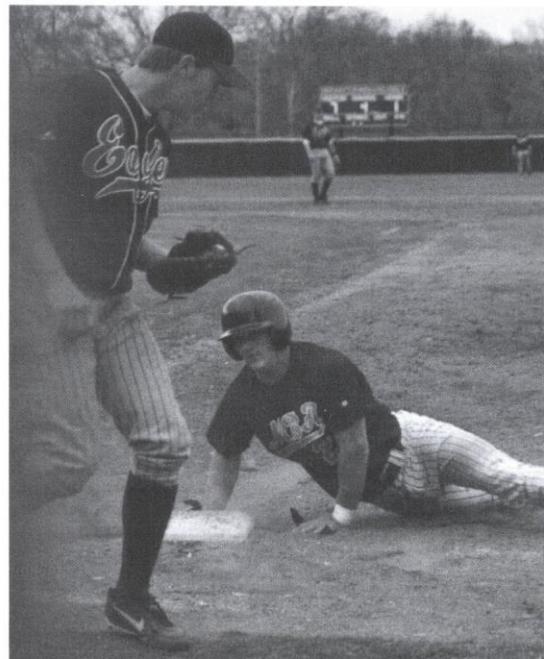
Lowest ERA – Nathan Sensing – 1.53
 Most Strike Outs – Will Tucker – 48
 Most Complete Games – Will Tucker - 5
 Lowest Batting Ave (VS.) – Nathan Sensing - .229

Pitcher Records -

Will Tucker – 5W-3L
 Nathan Sensing – 5W-0L
 Charlie Ezzell – 2W-2L
 Josh Ritter – 1W-1L
 Most Shutouts – Nathan Sensing - 2

Team Totals

Batting
 165 Runs Scored
 184 Total Hits
 130 RBIs
 .338 Batting Average
 .472 Slugging Percentage
 .441 On Base Percentage
 88 Walks Drawn
 49 Stolen Bases
Pitching
 124 Innings Pitched
 583 Batters Faced
 92 Runs Scored
 54 Earned Runs
 72 Walks
 112 Strike Outs
 2043 Total Pitched Thrown
 128 Hits Given Up
 .258 Batting Ave Against
 3.05 ERA



Jack Turner slides safely back to first

Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete... Critic

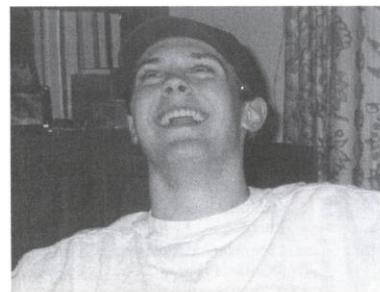
Johnny Sisk Interviews Himself

By Johnny Sisk

Johnny is a simple man who doesn't seem to have much of an opinion on anything, so naturally, the Bell Ringer was interested in him. Of course, I wound up with



the job of interviewing him - no easy task, mind you. First of all, he's not a very pleasant fellow - not the easiest to get along with. During the interview, he made painful jokes about my comically large chin more times than I would like to remember. However, he was the interview everyone wanted, and I finally got hold of him for a few minutes. This year he has been extremely busy as president of the senior class, a yearbook editor, as well as a college applicant - by far the most trying of his activities because, really, what university wants him? When we sat down to chat, he was cranky and unpleasant.



I: First off, Johnny, don't you think it's awfully self-centered of you to write an interview about yourself?

JS: Well, quite frankly, I don't

think anyone would have noticed if you hadn't brought it up - and you're the one interviewing me.

I: Anyway, Johnny -
JS: Please, please ... call me Mr. President.

I: Mr. President, we'll start off with the question everyone wants to know - what do you do on the weekends?

JS: That's the question everyone wants to know? No, no, I'm sorry. We're not going to talk much about me because, quite frankly, my life just isn't that interesting.

I: No, really, how do you spend your weekends?

JS: Recovering from the hectic work week. Sleeping, and that's fine because no one wants to hang out with me anyway except good ol' Mr. Sandman. Occasionally, I'll write, but most of the time, it's no good.

I: Do you ever read?

JS: Not often. I'm so busy the rest of the time, "Daddy's worn out by readin' time."

I: Television?

JS: Not once in my entire life

have I ever turned on a television.

I: What about movies? You ever go to those?

JS: Yeah, I would but in order to do that, I would have to leave the house, and secondly, it's kind of embarrassing watching *The Cider House Rules* in a theater all by myself. I have no friends - no "social companions" as my therapist likes to call them.

I: You go to therapy?

JS: Sure, why not? In a way, this little article you're writing here is an experiment in a

painful form of public therapy.

I: I'll have to admit - never before has any interviewer been able to get this intimate with you.

JS: Sad, isn't it? But how could I have possibly turned you down?

I: But seriously, you're telling me you have no friends?

JS: Well, maybe that's a little extreme. I have two dogs - Muffin and Lucie - and a pet monkey. His name is Muckles.

I: Oh, come on ...
JS: No, I have no life. Sorry to disappoint you. I'm not too happy about it either, but enough about me. Let's talk about you.

I: Well, technically you are talking about me.

JS: Whatever, I just don't care. Let's talk about something else. I thought this was going to be about the school. This is a school newspaper, right?

I: All right. First off, I've got a real hot-button issue for you. What's your opinion on the recent changes in the cafeteria?

JS: Recent changes? I'm sorry, I've never heard anyone complain about the delicious dining experience one can have in Frist Hall.

I: And possibly deadly (kidding) dining

experience. You

do know You do know that there have been problems?

JS: I have no idea what has happened. I haven't been in the cafeteria in over two years and to this I attribute my good health (kidding). While I can't say I know the people that work in there very well, I do know this: they are the best people on campus. They provide our school excellent service and are some of the nicest people in the world.

I: Then why don't you go in there anymore?

JS: Couldn't afford it and that's not their fault. They have no control over the money situation. It's just that paying \$16 for mystery meat may be all right for some students, but who looks at a Baskin-Robbins sized sample of salad and says, "Yeah, \$5, that sounds about right?" How can a salad cost over \$1? I don't know. Maybe the tomatoes are imported from some

exotic island off the Pacific Coast. You know, if MBA just had more land, maybe we could grow our own food. Now that's a swell idea. We could just start our own farm down there by Harding. Sure, the lacrosse program would have to go, but what does Coach Bernatavitz care when he's enjoying freshly-picked tomatoes everyday for lunch? Right from our own front yard!

I: All right, but how do you grow candy? You know they've stopped selling candy, right?

JS: Well, we build a \$5 million chocolate factory of course. And I'm tellin' you - we'll run Willy Wonka's ass right out of business.

I: But really, what is your opinion on the candy crisis?

JS: Crisis may be a bit extreme. It's not like CNN is running hourly



updates on the Big Red candy scandal. But I do think it's unfortunate that students have lost the only ounce of joy they got out of their entire day. And why not have candy? They think that if they get rid of candy, they're going to magically whip the MBA student body into shape. Good Lord, believe me, I have seen the MBA student body and it's not the most impressive physical specimen. Like, sure, if you take that Twix bar away from little Timmy, he'll be in shape. Taking a piece of chocolate away from someone isn't exactly like making everyone take a Tae-bo class.

I: What do you think the next step is?

JS: Well, the administration's going to have major trouble controlling the illegal underground candy trafficking that has already resulted. But hey, what do they expect? Students will find a way to

Continued on page 13

A Challenge*

Johnny Sisk Interviews Himself

[View details of this deal](#)

Continued from page 13



Norton and Co. Keeping Up with Comedy

By Will Choppin

When I first saw a preview for *Keeping the Faith*, I thought the movie looked alright, but not great. I knew that Edward Norton, twice nominated for an Academy Award, would give a good

somewhat opposing forces: religion and love. As for the basic plot: a priest and a rabbi are reunited with their childhood friend and they both fall in love her. The problem is that both the priest and the rabbi should not get involved with her

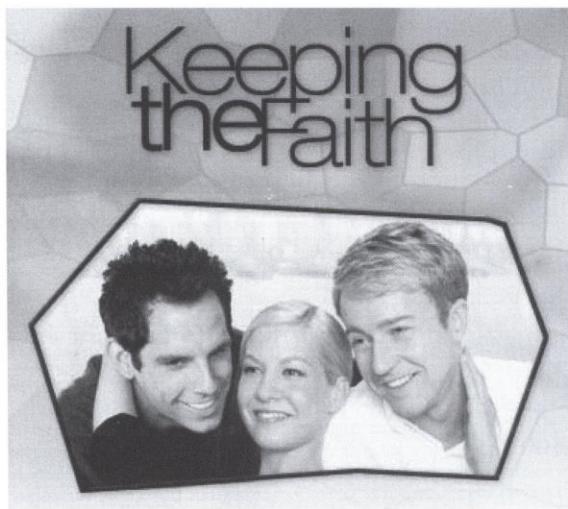
if he wants to be a rabbi. He is under tremendous pressure from his congregation, his superiors, and his mother (Anne Bancroft). Jake basically just does not want to date. Both Brian's and Jake's lives are changed when their childhood friend, the "coolest eight grade girl to have around" who moved to California during their childhood, returns to New York, where Brian and Jake have been all their lives.

Her name is Anna (Banana), and Jenna Elfman plays her. She has grown up into a successful businesswoman, and she is still as loveable as always. Both the priest and the rabbi are attracted to her, but they keep it from each other. First of all, Brian should be loyal to his sacrifice and remain celibate, while

Brian should only marry a Jewish woman. Anna herself becomes interested with one of these men, and the plot thickens.

In this movie, love conquers all. The tagline on the poster reads, "If you have to believe in something, You might as well believe in love." This is true, good advice, and the moral of the story. My only two complaints are the screenplay and the length of the movie. The movie is over two hours long and only has about as much storyline that can be stretched no further than about an hour and a half.

However, the movie is still quite enjoyable. Edward Norton deserves the most credit for his acting, directing, and impression of Rain Man.



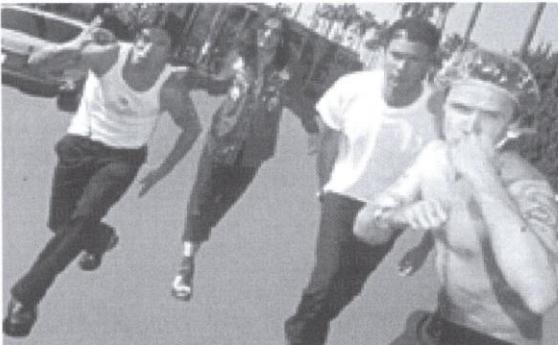
performance, but I was not sure about how the movie would be with him directing it. After seeing the movie, I was duly impressed. There was almost never a dull moment and it was a very entertaining flick.

The movie is centered on two

for certain religious reasons.

Director Edward Norton plays Brian, a young man who is on the path of priesthood. He has made a vow of celibacy and can not marry. Ben Stiller plays Jake, a young rabbi. He, on the other hand, must marry a Jewish woman

RHCP Come to TN



Discovering the Gang

By Cannon Kinnard

The Bloodhound Gang is the type of band you are either going to love, or you are going to hate.

They are a bunch of sick guys who sing about sex, more sex, and lots more sex.

They are great.

The Bloodhound Gang is not for everybody. In fact most people probably won't like them. They are very crude. I would not recommend this band to women, children, or old people. It's basically targeted for males 16-30, unless you are a really cool gal, and you can stand a few dirty words.

I can't seem to get enough of what has offended many. In one song they explore words to rhyme with "the female anatomy," lets say, and how

badly they need to find a new one.

The music has a punk edge with some rock guitar thrown in, but you will find some other stuff here that you can't really categorize.

I find these guys completely hilarious. Their words don't offend me; I think they're really clever to come up with some of this stuff.

So if you believe you can take everything they say as a joke, this is an super swanky album. Bloodhound Gang's current single "The Bad Touch" (mammal song) is probably (surprisingly) the mildest song on the album, a fact that probably scares a lot people. I do not really care for the song "The Bad Touch," but maybe you do. The bottom line: hysterical lyrics and pretty good music. Definitely worth the \$17.50.

By Reid Murphy

On April 12 in Chattanooga, The Red Hot Chili Peppers continued their "Californication" tour. On a ticket with the Foo Fighters, the Chili Peppers played to a sold out arena on the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga campus.

Being a constant lawn jockey at Starwood during the summers, I can honestly admit the Chili Peppers absolutely blew away any concert I have ever been to.

Flea and returning lead guitar, John Frusciante livened up the concert before they started playing. As the Foo Fighters started the last song in their encore, the two darted on stage stark naked and danced the last song away. After the Foo Fighters finished, the Chili Peppers came on (fully clothed)

and began with the first song from "Californication," "All Around the World." Because Frusciante made his return to the Chili Peppers on this CD, most of the songs were from "Blood Sugar Sex Magik." The concert was dominated by songs from the two CD's. Nothing was played from "One Hot Minute." The Chili Peppers played their most popular songs from "Under the Bridge," "Scar Tissue," "Give It Away," and "Other Side" to the not so popular but not any less appreciated SONGS such as, "I Could Have Lied," "The Greeting Song" and in their encore "Sir Psycho Sexy." The concert was outstanding, and the Foo Fighters were entertaining. The concert comes to Nashville in June, and if the Chili Peppers play half as well as they played in Chattanooga, it certainly would be well worth your time and money to see them.

Entertainment

15

Students Pack into Theater for Disco Dance

Over 400 MBA, Harpeth Hall, and St. Cecilia students dress up in 70's costumes to boogie, party like it was 1979



By Michael Pass

Despite the hot air inside the theater, students decked in 70's regalia boogied to unforgettable tunes of the 70's.

The annual disco, overwhelmingly loved by our MBA population for the swanky music and skimpy outfits worn by our Harpeth Hall and St. Cecilia counterparts, inspired many to put forth great efforts to find the perfect ensemble.

The thrifter students purchased clothing at Good Will or the local thrift stores, while the more extravagant found apparel at such costume stores as Silver Moon or Pieces.

The senior class organizes the Disco Dance annually to raise money for Project Graduation held at the end of the year as a party alternative for graduating seniors. Project Graduation is attended by virtually every senior and provides a fun and safe environment.

This year, the music, sound, and light system was put together by a group of theater technicians, headed by Judson Mulherin, who worked all afternoon to get ready for the dance. They burned CDs so the music could play continuously and set up lights to create the perfect ambience.

Will Denbo, Mathew McIntosh, Ben Sabel, and Chris Camp displayed a few of the more noticeable outfits, and



a few females opted to command the attention of a few MBA students with their minuscule outfits. In an unfortunate event, Will Denbo engaged in excessively dirty dancing with Bert Hoover, and had to be physically removed from the dance floor by several faculty members.

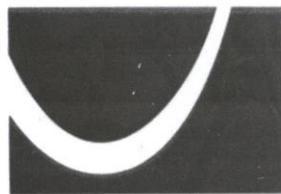
Mr Jones, the faculty sponsor of the Project Graduation was excited both at the amount of money raised and the amount of fun had by all.

"It was great," he said, summing up the sentiments felt by the students who took to the dance floor and by the teachers who chaperoned the event.

The one thing that was lacking was the fact that not a single teacher dressed up for this event. This fact was

both sad and ironic because the teachers are the ones who would be more likely have the polyester and bell bottoms at hand.

All look forward to the future successes of project graduation discs.



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"Mulletmania" Hits a Fever Pitch

By Adam Brooks

The fascination of an eccentric haircut is sweeping the community of our quaint little conservative school. Mulletsgalore.com has turned many a head to seek and destroy this infamous haircut—THE MULLET. Also known as the "Tennessee see Top Hat" (go Vols!), the mullet generally can be defined as any haircut that is short in the front and long in the back. Some popular mullets throughout history include Billy Ray Cyrus, Michael Bolton, Travis Tritt, Jesus (arguable), and our very own Carlton Stewart (although recently shorn).

Historians are unsure of where the mullet originated. Some believe it to be from ancient Celtic tribes, who imple-

mented the haircut because of the fact that they needed the hair in the front out of their eyes, and the hair in the back simply didn't matter. Psychologists alike are baffled as to why the mullet attracts its people to society's worst mistakes: trailer parks, theme parks, state fairs, Denny's/Shoney's, Nascar-sponsored events, Skynyrd shows, Canada, anyone employed at the Nashville Sounds games, the professional wrestling circuit, anywhere Jeff Foxworthy is doing

a live show, my cousins in Louisville, and every single one of us back in the 80's—don't you even DARE deny that! Mulletsgalore.com classifies them into numerous categories such as the Classic mullet, Camaro mullet, Euro-mullet,

Midgie-mullet, Perm-mullet, Mini-truck mullet, and Parental Negligence mullet (any child with a mullet who's not old enough to know better). The list goes on and on with descriptions of each, but you'll have to visit the web site to get the full and in-depth research.

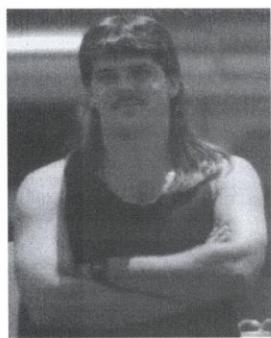
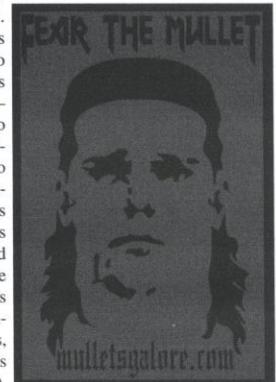
WARNING: When you're chopped off in front, but your hair still tickles the back of your neck and you're not trying to see how long you can stare at the sun, you, sir, probably have a mullet. That is

not to say that women are not susceptible to mullets and they most certainly are (Femullets), they are just more easily avoided. If you or one of your friends think that you might be guilty of this fashion faux pas or are unsure if you

plumage extends too far, do not hesitate to ask MBA's certified mullet patrol: Ricky "kuchermuleto" Bowers. If you are out and about and do not have access to the latter, stay cool and get yourself anywhere you see a "Safe Place" sign or a weed-eater.

Gentlemen and colleagues, I leave you with these words: pay attention to the mullets around you. Mullet hunting can provide hours of fun-filled entertainment, and possible bonding time with that special someone. We must unite together and obliterate the mullet, that is, until I decide that it would be cool to grow one.

Faculty, please feel free to grow the best possible mullet you can for the sake of classroom humor and student morale.



A classic mullet

The Boiling Point of American Satire

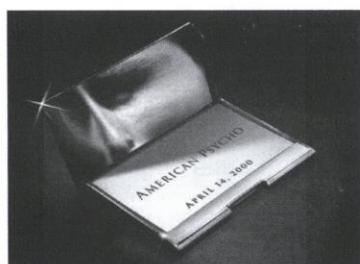
By Drew Conrad

American Psycho, a visceral, technically stunning and darkly comic but ultimately repulsive satire of 80s greed and amorality (based on a 1991 controversial bestseller by Bret Easton Ellis) of the same name, is one of those movies in which the laughs alternate with winces and gasps. It chronicles the downward spiral of the self-absorbed, self-obsessed Patrick Bateman (played with reptilian charm and cruelty by the impressive Christian Bale) into madness and homicidal mania amidst the superficial, coke-snorting, materialistic Me Generation of the 80s.

Bateman is the archetype of the Wall Street predator and is at first almost indistinguishable from his friends. The first third of the film is actually a fairly subtle and extremely funny satire of the skewed preoccupation with

wealth and appearance. Bateman has a beauty routine that would make Tammy Faye Baker cringe.

However, as Bateman slips into the chaos of insanity, so does the rest of the movie. About halfway, it degenerates into gut-churning depictions of torture



and gore. The anchor of the film remains its female leads, the always dependable Chloe Sevigny as Bateman's faithful and innocent secretary and Nashville native Reese Witherspoon as the killer's oblivious fiancee. The final, inane twist will leave many stumped and lends itself to a number of different interpretations, but I won't ruin it.

Two main points that cannot be ignored are the pervasive and overwhelming violence and immorality of the film. The movie, directed by Mary

Harron who helmed *I Shot Andy Warhol*, features scenes of grisly brutality and misogyny not for the faint of heart. Hopefully the American public will understand that this movie is a satire. Many movies such as this one have been misunderstood, including *Natural Born Killers* and *Fight Club*. Regardless, the movie will offend more than it entertains. The violence is excessive and many scenes seem more for sick titillation rather than focused satire. Ultimately it was far too much to bear. After 45 minutes of chainsaws, axes, and knife attacks the intended satire is drowned out by the mayhem. Satire can be brutal and effective (e.g. *Fight Club*) but should not career into the glorification of that which it is meant to satirize and should ultimately have some redeeming positive message at the end which *American Psycho* may or may not have depending on your own interpretation.

The film is not without its strengths. The visual style is electrifying and the acting is excellent (with the exception of the vapid Jared Leto) and

many of the less over-the-top scenes work as very effective black comedy such as Bateman's ruminations on the histories of pop groups and Phil Collins before his executions. The movie also



Reese Witherspoon stars in this satirical thriller

explores the modern male, his drives and desires as well as his disillusionment. It is successful in tracing the disturbing relationship between predatory instincts of the savage, natural man to his contemporary equivalent. The movie seems to be grasping for some message beneath its flash and in Bateman's provoking monologues, but it is ultimately unsatisfying.

The film chooses instead to wallow in gore and loses the opportunity to transcend its own glossy finish.

Carter Building to be all Decked Out

continued from page 1

the publications room toward the Ball Building, will be a student commons. At this point, it is still yet to be determined if this student commons will be a senior room or if it will be a place for all students to relax, talk with friends, and study together.

The third room is to be the Big Red Store, moved from the Davis Building, and Mr. Jones' counseling office, with a room of information and brochures (about sports camp, summer trips, service opportunities, etc.), adjacent to his office.

The idea of the first floor is that, with its large windows and wide hallways, it will be, according to Mr. Gioia, "like an indoor quadrangle connecting

the two sides of campus."

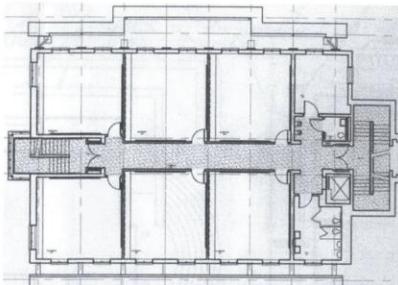
The building was designed by Tuck Hinton, a group which the school has been using in recent years on projects such as the Davis Building and the Ball Tower.

The school's next building project commences this summer, when the basement of the gym will be gutted and a complex including a new weight room doubled in size, more locker room space, two wrestling rooms, and numerous coaches office, will be built.

But just like in the new plan of the gym, where not all coaches will have office space, not all teachers will have their own classrooms in the new Carter Building. This fact raises the question of why some teachers who have been here for less than five years, but teach

in the spacious Massey Building to junior school students, have their own classrooms, while high school teachers who have been at MBA for dozens of years, but are in a department that does not have its own building, do not.

The senior class is anticipating the completion of the building as much as anyone else, though they will never be able to use the facilities, as they hope the area around the building will be clear and spacious



Floor Plan for both second and third floors, with six classrooms and ladies' and men's bathrooms on each

enough to have their commencement in front of the Wallace Building on the Sloan Quadrangle.

Hope for the Future, Novice Debate Excels

By Chris Emfinger

This past year the MBA novice debate team traveled to nine tournaments hosted throughout the country. In the policy division, where issues affecting the policies of the US and other countries are discussed, the team was able to secure numerous victories at the various tournaments, thanks in part to the extensive coaching of Mr. DeYoung and Mr. Coverstone.

Debate this year has been a memorable experience for all who were involved because of several different things. It was interesting to research articles and evidence about all of the aspects of the topic of this year and all of the implications of the arguments argued in these articles. The use of this extensive evidence proved to widen our understanding of the world around us in the areas of education, politics, philosophical theory, and inter-governmental relationships.

But along with the actual work involved with this activity, there were many other events that proved to be memorable experiences for all of us. The peculiar and slightly humorous instances where events seemed not to go as planned, such as the hours of driving aimlessly at the Glenbrooks Tournament searching for one of the restaurants recommended by Mr. Tate (who provided extensive support to the team by arranging transportation and lodging for the team, as well as managing the debate finances and National Forensic League rankings) proved to add ambience to the incident. The sights seen during the many travels around the country, including the many state

capitals and tourist attractions. The friendships made with those on the team and with those from other teams from around the country proved also to be a memorable aspect of debate.

The other divisions of this activity, including the Lincoln Douglas division and the individual events, proved to be both successful and beneficial as well.

In the individual events, the team did remarkably in areas such as prose interpretation, where one reads a prose piece as they believe the author would read it, and extemporaneous speaking, where one speaks about a current events topic.

The Lincoln-Douglas debaters, in which philosophical issues are discussed, did not fare so well, though those members of this division learned much this year.

Several freshmen performed admirably.

Hunter Mobley secured numerous victories in the realm of Poetry and Prose interpretation.

Ben Newman did remarkably well in the realm of extemporaneous speaking.

Vivek Surti and David McNamee did well in the policy division, winning numerous speaker awards and advancing at almost every tournament.

Jonathan Mott did very well in the realm of Lincoln Douglas debate.

Mr. De Young and Mr. Coverstone created difficult yet advantageous schedules that maximized success. They helped the team understand the many and complex aspects of debate arguments this year and allowed

the team to be prepared to defend any position or attack and tear down any position that we were given. This preparation allowed the team to be able to combat many excellent teams from around the country and to achieve victories.

It was the extensive knowledge of these two people and their innate ability to conjure up arguments off the

top of their heads that made the difference at times between a win and a loss.

It was with their explanations and the extensive evidence researched by the varsity, coaches, and ourselves, that the achieved victory.

Look for greatness from the JV and Varsity teams in the years to come. They will not let themselves, their coaches or the school down.



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